IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

MICHAEL A. EPSTEIN ET AL

Serial No. 09/536,945

Filed: MARCH 28, 2000

Atty. Docket

US000032

ALIG 2.7 2001

Technology Center 2100

Group Art Unit: 2766

Title: PROTECTING CONTENT FROM ILLICIT REPRODUCTION BY PROOF OF EXISTENCE OF A COMPLETE DATA SET USING SECURITY IDENTIFIERS

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title insert the following new paragraph:

 \mathcal{N}

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/177,863 filed January 24, 2000, Attorney Docket US 000032P.

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted to properly reflect the priority of a previously filed provisional application.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory L. Thorne/ Reg. No. 39,39

Attorney

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

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